Annex "A," Subparagraph 1h,
Sociological Background

SOCIAL VALUES AND PATTERNS OF LIVING

181
157 Livonians' character. The Livonians are said to be bashful but brave and determined. In their boldness, their knowledge of languages, and in their spirituality they are supposed to be ahead of their neighbors, the Latvians. If one can make friends with the Livonians and win their trust, they will become very friendly and trust one with their most intimate secrets. They are reported to be a very honest and forthright people. Seldom do they lock their granaries, and they send their horses and sheep into the forests for weeks on end without supervision. The drawbacks to the Livonian character are said to be their greediness, which is revealed in an unscrupulous desire to loot wrecked ships, their stubbornness and their drunkenness.

Spiritual development. The Livonians live in a spiritual childhood. Loorits illustrates this in his description of a middle aged well-to-do farmer who has lived in the United States and in South Russia, who knows English and Russian well, but who cannot believe that the earth rotates and that the sun is a fiery mass bigger than the earth. "Mass, what is mass?" he asks incomprehensibly and shakes his head: "Oh, oh, how these philosophers lie."

181 It was also impossible for them to under-
157 stand why certain anthropologists were digging
● up their dead. Since Professor Setälä's last visit to the Livonians took place not long before the outbreak of the first World War, they were convinced that the professor had sent the war. When Loorits and Professor Kettunen were doing field-work among them after the war, the Livonians considered this a bad omen, for "the war will come again."

183 Customs and superstitions. The Livonians stick faithfully to their old customs and traditions. Especially the customs of marriage and burial, as the most important events of a man's life, are followed in the greatest detail.

585 Wedding customs are slightly different in various villages. In Ire, for instance, they are as follows: When the young man has chosen his bride, they both go on horseback to have their banns read. During the following few weeks the girl is very busy with preparations for her wedding gifts. The wedding takes place on Sunday morning at the regular church service. Before going to church, the bridal pair is betrothed. This happens when they are seated at a table and their hands are placed upon each other; certain relatives also place their hands upon or underneath the hands of the young people. The bridegroom and the bride then go to church in different carriages, the bride wearing a high pearl